

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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COGARD

GOVGUAM

TREASURY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 23 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. JAPAN

SECOND SESSION TANAKA TRIAL ON LOCKHEED BRIBERY TOOK PLACE 2/22. DEFENSE OPENED W/OBJECTION TO CONTENT PROSECUTION'S INITIAL STATEMENT AT 1ST SESSION LAST MONTH, WHICH IT SAID WAS TOO SENSATIONAL/LONG/STORY-TELLING IN STYLE. JUDGE REJECTED OBJECTIONS, PROSECUTION THEN ANNOUNCED EVENTUAL INTENTION SUBMITTING AS EVIDENCE DEPOSITIONS BY FORMER LOCKHEED VP KOTCHIAN, TAKEN UNDER OATH BY US COURT AT REQUEST JAPANESE AUTHORITIES. TRIAL RESUMES 3/2 (SUN'S TAKAYAMA).

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REUTER'S WEEKS (TOKYO) INTERVIEWS JAPANESE SHIPBUILDERS' ASSN PRES YAMASHITA, WHO SAYS JAPAN CAN MAKE NO FURTHER CONCESSIONS TO HELP W EUR NATIONS COPE W/INDUSTRY SLUMP. SUGGESTS EUR SHOULD ASK EMERGING COMPETITORS--SUCH AS BRAZIL, SK--TO ENSURE THEIR OUTPUT WILL EXPAND "VERY SLOWLY." ADDS JAPAN HAS NO PLANS INCREASE ITS DOMINATION WORLD SHIPBUILDING, THO DOES PLAN MAINTAIN 50-PCT SHARE WORLD MARKET

(2/22).

FOLLOWING US/USSR, JAPAN BECOMES 3RD NATION LAUNCH STATIONARY-ORBIT EXPERIMENTAL SATELLITE. JAPANESE-AMERICAN LAUNCHER SHOT COUNTRY'S 10TH SATELLITE, WHICH INCLUDES EQUIPMENT INTENDED FOR PLANNED COMMUNICATION SATELLITES (REUTER TANEGASHIMA).

SEVERAL HUNDRED DEMONSTRATORS PROTEST OUTSIDE VARIOUS MINISTRIES IN TOKYO 2/23, DEMANDING JAPAN'S ONLY NUKE-POWERED SHIP--"MUTSU"--BE SCRAPPED. SHIP DEVELOPED RADIATION LEAK DURING 1ST TEST CRUISE IN '72, ALLOWED RETURN HOME PORT ONLY AFTER GOJ AGREED REMOVE IT BY 4/14, PAY COMPENSATION FOR ITS PRESENCE TO LOCAL FISHERMEN (REUTER TOKYO).

US SETS FISHING QUOTA FOR JAPAN OF 1.2 MIL TONS--11 PCT DECREASE FROM LAST YR (WP 2/19).

JAPAN'S JAN AUTO PRODUCTION FELL 10.6 PCT FROM DEC, BUT ROSE RECORD 11.5 PCT FROM YR AGO (WSJ). BRISK EXPORTS RESULT IN RECORD SALES FOR TOYOTA'S '76 JULY-DEC PERIOD (UPI, BALT NA 2/22).

2. JAPAN/CHINA

JAPAN/PRC WILL REVIEW BILATERAL TRADE/ECON RELS AT 3-DAY TOKYO MTG BEGINNING 3/2. JAPAN'S FORN MINISTRY SAID MIXED TRADE CMTE FAILED MEET LAST YR DUE PRC'S INTERNAL PROBLEMS. UNCLASSIFIED

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LEMS. TALKS EXPECTED CONCERN CHINESE OIL SALES TO JAPAN ON LONG-TERM BASIS/OTHER NATURAL RESOURCES SALES. TRADE EXPANSION IN ORDER CORRECT GAP IN JAPAN'S FAVOR ALSO ON AGENDA (REUTER TOKYO).

3. CHINA

WP NEWS DISPATCH REPORTS ESTABLISHMENT PRC-LIBERIA DIP TIE, AND LIBERIA DROPPING RECOG OF TAIWAN. REUTER REPORT (TAIPEI) NOTES TAIWAN ANNOUNCED BREAK IN RELS WITH LIBERIA NEXT DAY.

WP'S MATHEWS (IN HK) NOTES PEKING EFFORTS TO END RAILWAY DISORDER. CITES ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECENT NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RAILWAY WORK, AT WHICH DELS MET WITH AND RECEIVED "IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS" FROM CHAIRMAN HUA AND DEFENSE MINISTER YEH CHIEN-YING.

PAUL RICHARD (WP) WRITES OF LANDSCAPES BY ARTIST THOMAS

GEORGE AFTER HIS '74 AND '76 VISITS TO PRC.

BAMBERGER (NYT) REPORTS DEATH OF FORMER NATIONALIST DIPLOMAT HENRY KUNG-HUI CHANG IN NEW ROCHELL AT AGE 92.

4. THAILAND

COMMUNIST GUERRILLAS IN NE KILL 2 POLICE; IN S THAILAND, INSURGENTS KILL COP, SOLDIER (REUTER BANGKOK).

RTG CONFISCATES FEB 11 ISSUE "FE ECON REVIEW" DUE PEAGAM ARTICLE THAT "TENDEED TO MISLEAD" PEOPLE INTO BELIEVING GOVT/MIL SPLIT EXISTS. PEAGAM EXPELLED LAST WEDS (REUTER BANGKOK).

5. BURMA

GUB BEGINS MAJOR NEW OFFENSIVE VS DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN N UNCLASSIFIED

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STATES AS ESTIMATED 600-TON BUMPER OPIUM CROP EXPECTED IN BURMESE PART GOLDEN TRIANGLE (REUTER BANGKOK).

6. PHILIPPINES

PHIL ARMY CAPT TESTIFIES AT IMMIGRATION HEARING THAT HE SAW US JOURNALIST WIDEMAN MEET TWICE W/SUSPECTED SUBVERSIVE LAST YR. WIDEMAN SAYS INTENDS DENY ALL ALLEGATIONS MADE AGAINST HIM (WP).

COMBINED US-PHIL AMPHIBIOUS EXERCISE BEING HELD 20 MI N SUBIC; INCLUDES 4 USN SHIPS, 8 PHIL CRAFT, 2000 US/PHIL MARINES (REUTER MANILA).

7. SINGAPORE

GOS EXPELS BRITISH TEACHER BRIAN MAURICE; ACCUSES HIM BEING INVOLVED IN PLOT TO "SMEAR" GOOD NAME OF GOVT/ COLLABORATING W/COMMUNISTS (UPI, BALT NA 2/22).

8. AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND

FORMER US MAFIA LEADER "BIG VINNIE" TERESA WHO TURNED FBI INFORMER IN 1970 TO BE DEPORTED FROM AUSTRALIA. OFFICIALS SAY ENTERED TO GIVE EVIDENCE CONCERNING LEGALIZED CASINOS IN NSW, BUT VISA INVALID SINCE MADE FALSE STATEMENT THAT HAD NO CRIMINAL RECORD (REUTER CANBERRA).

CHITRIB CARRIES UPI PIC QUEEN FOLLOWING ARRIVAL NZ ON 2-WK S PAC TOUR.

9. KOREA

ROKG APPOINTS KIM YONG-SHIK NEW AMB TO US, REPLACING HAHM
PYONG-CHOON WHO BEING REASSIGNED TO MFA SEOUL (UPL,
BALT NA 2/22). BABCOCK (WP) POINTS OUT KIM IS SK'S MOST
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EXPERIENCED CAREER DIPLOMAT, NOW AT LONDON. NOTES
OBSERVERS VIEW SWITCH AS EFFORT BY PRES PARK MAKE FRESH
START W/CARTER ADMIN. GIVES KIM'S BIODATA. QUOTES
DON RANARD THAT KIM IS SEOUL'S MOST SOPHISTICATED/URBANE
DIPLOMAT; PROBABLY BEING SENT AT DIFFICULT TIME TO MAKE
GOOD IMPRESSION.

NK CHOOSES ELDEST SON, KIM CHONG IL, AS KIM IL SUNG'S
EVENTUAL SUCCESSOR. FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT EXPECTED ON PRES
KIM'S BIRTHDAY, APR 15 (REUTER TOKYO).

10. GENERAL

CULLISON (JOC) SAYS RECENTLY ADOPTED US TAX REFORM ACT,
THAT SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASES PERSONAL INCOME TAXES FOR
AMCITS WORKING ABROAD, WILL BE MOST IMPORTANT SUBJECT TO
BE DISCUSSED AT 4-DAY MTG ASIA-PACIFIC COUNCIL OF
AMERICAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE THAT OPENS AT BANGKOK FRI.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

11. CHINA

CONTENDING THAT BOYCOTTS ARE "IN THE NEWS," WSJ HIGHLIGHTS
"CHINESE BOYCOTT"--PEKING'S EFFORT PRESSURE US FIRMS IN
"US-REPUBLIC OF CHINA ECONOMIC COUNCIL" FROM TRADING WITH
ROC. EDIT SUGGESTS DOS EFFORTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED AT
KEEPING AMCITS "FROM BEING WHIPSAWED" IN MIDST OF ONE OR
OTHER OF SUCH PERPETUAL WORLD QUARRELS.

12. INDOCHINA

KOSHNER (BALT NA 2/22) REVIEWS EMERSON'S "WINNERS AND
LOSERS." DESCRIBES IT AS THORN IN OUR SIDE, REMINDING US
OF WHAT WE WOULD LIKE NOT REMEMBER.

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13. MALAYSIA

CSM'S MORITZ, IN KL, STATES COMMUNIST VICTORY SVN HAS NOT BROUGHT SUCCESSFUL REVIVAL COMMUNIST INSURGENCY IN MALAYSIA ANALYSTS CITE STEPPED-UP POLICE/INTELL OPNS WHICH HAVE STOPPED LARGE INFLOW COMMUNIST GUERRILLAS FROM THAI BORDER TO COUNTRY'S INTERIOR; GOM STATISTICS SHOW 50-PCT INCREASE IN GUERRILLAS ELIMINATED IN '76 OVER '75. MORITZ NOTES CHINESE MAKE UP BULK GUERRILLA FORCE. WIDELY THOUGHT GOM'S POLICY UPGRADING STATUS ETHNIC MALAYS VIA EDUCATIONAL/ECON POLS THAT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST CHINESE/INDIANS HAS INCREASED LURE OF GUERRILLA LIFE FOR YOUNG CHINESE WHO FIND IT IMPOSSIBLE CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION.
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